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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE

Delaware Announces Galaxy National Lacrosse Conference Championships

Two-day event planned July 26-27

Dover, Del. (June 20, 2008) - The Delaware Tourism Office is pleased to announce that womenslacrosse.com, a national provider of lacrosse playing opportunities and recruiting events, has signed a five-year contract to organize and manage the Galaxy National Conference Championships in the First State. The two-day event will take place the weekend of July 26-27 at the Kirkwood Soccer Club in New Castle, Del.

"We are excited to have the Galaxy Lacrosse National Championships coming to Delaware," said Tim Morgan, director of Tourism for the Delaware Economic Development Office. "Sporting events such as these national championships bring thousands of people to the area to enjoy the competition, shopping and the wonderful attractions that Delaware has to offer. In addition, this event will create a substantial economic impact for area hotels, restaurants and retail shops. We look forward to an exciting weekend of competition and to hosting this event in Delaware for years to come."

Twenty-two hundred athletes and an estimated 5,000 spectators will be in the Newark-Wilmington area for the event. The Galaxy National Conference Championships will have a \$ \$608, 685 total economic impact on Delaware's economy.

Event organizers expect 110 teams to compete for championships at the high school varsity, junior varsity and middle school levels. There will be two divisions in each graduating year with teams guaranteed a minimum of four, 40-minute games. For more information, visit www.galaxylacrosse.com/nationalchamps.html.

Cathy Samaras, founder and CEO of womenslacrosse.com, hopes to make Galaxy Nationals a premier event on par with National Draw, All-Star Express and others operated by the organization. "We are delighted to take on the challenge of growing and improving Galaxy Nationals. This tournament has great potential and we will use our expertise and resources to maximize that potential," Samaras said.

The tournament, held annually since 2003, has been a joint effort of the Galaxy Conference – a group comprised of elite club programs from all over the country such as CC Lax, M&D, Mass Elite, Skywalkers, Yellow Jackets and X-Team to name a few.

“Cathy and her team always do a great job of running tournaments so that’s good news for this event,” said Carol Rose, executive director of the Yellow Jackets program. Rose and other program directors were pleased to learn that Galaxy Nationals will remain centrally located – equidistant for club teams in the north as well as the south. In fact, the New Castle County facility is even more accessible, located just minutes off I-95.

The Kirkwood Soccer Club, constructed in 1992, is a 60-acre complex featuring 14 fields ranging from 105 to 120 yards in length. There is one artificial surface field and another Bermuda grass field along with a spacious indoor facility that includes training rooms, exercise and weightlifting equipment, restrooms and a food court.

Executive Director Joe Mills and staff have experience preparing fields for women’s lacrosse as the University of Wilmington plays its home games at Kirkwood, which primarily hosts large soccer and field hockey tournaments. “Galaxy Nationals fits right in with our mission in terms of the types of events we are seeking to attract,” Mills said. “We want to be as diverse as we can and we’re pleased to add a women’s lacrosse tournament to our lineup.”

All fields at Kirkwood Soccer Complex are located within easy walking distance of one another, which Mills has found to be a major attraction over the years. “It works out very well for college scouts and fans because the fields are in such close proximity,” he said.

About Delaware Tourism Office

The Delaware Tourism Office, a division of the Delaware Economic Development Office, promotes tourism and economic growth in Delaware. The Office is dedicated to fulfilling the requests and needs of travelers by offering information and resources about Delaware activities, attractions and destinations. For more information, visit the official Delaware Tourism Web site at www.VisitDelaware.com or call toll-free 866-284-7483.

About Womenslacrosse.com

womenslacrosse.com is the premier provider of lacrosse playing opportunities and recruiting events in the United States and beyond. Founder and CEO Cathy Samaras has been a trailblazer in the sport of women’s lacrosse, working tirelessly for 20 years to promote the growth and development of the game – from grassroots to global.

Samaras has created lacrosse opportunities for players of all levels at extraordinary events disguised as lacrosse tournaments. Along the way, the organization has succeeded in empowering young athletes to feel the freedom and fun of playing, experience college on hard-earned scholarships, dream big and accomplish more than they ever thought possible. For more information, visit www.womenslacrosse.com.

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